(b) if not, the efforts Government have made in this regard in the results thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Entertainment Tax is a State subject and the rates vary from State to State.

(b) With the objective of all round development of film industry, State Governments were *inter-alia* requested to consider rationalising the rates of Entertainment Tax so that a uniform rate prevails in the country. However, no consensus was arrived at in the matter and during the 24th Conference of State and Union Territory Information Ministers held in New Delhi on 21.1.2001, it was decided to set up a Committee for Development of the Entertainment sector, to suggest the policy framework both at the Centre and in the States for realising the potential of the Entertainment Sector. As a result of the deliberations in this Committee, it has been decided to recommend that all States/Union Territory administrations fix a celing of 60% on entertainment tax. The recommendations of the Committee have been circulated to all States/Union Territory Administrations.

Magazines published in Hindi and English

†2564. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the magazines published by Government in Hindi and English alongwith the prices thereof and production cost of each magazine;

(b) the magazine which are making profits and those running in loss alongwith reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to discontinue the publication of magazines running in loss during last few years as per the prescribed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

PRASAD): (a) The details of magazines being published by Directorate of Publications Division (DPD) in Hindi and English together with their prices and cost of production are as follows:-

Name of the magazine	Prices (Rs.)	Production Cost(Rs.)
Hindi		
1. Yojana	7/-	7.90
2. Bal Bharati	7/-	9.35
3. Ajkal	7/-	10.05
4. Kurukshetra	7/-	15.80
English		
1. Yojana	7/-	8.00
2. Kurukshetra	7/-	16.00

(b) and (c) Government does not publish the above magazines for commercial profit. The purpose of publishing these magazines is to disseminate information and make available appropriate literature at affordable prices. There is, at present, no proposal to discontinue any of the magazines noted above.

Advertisements by the Central Ministries and State Governments

†2565. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that several Central Ministries are sending their advertisements directly to the newspapers for publication instead of sending them through D.A.V.P. of his Ministry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several State Governments and Governments of Union Territories are also sending their advertisements to the newspapers of their choice on their own

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.